

# *Epilogue*



1939

Bellingham Memorial High School Library  
Bellingham, Massachusetts

Gift of  
Dr. J. F. O'Mara

January 1967











THE PIONEER CLASS

of

BELLINGHAM HIGH SCHOOL

proudly presents the



*Epilogue . . .*

for

Nineteen Hundred and Thirty-Nine

## *Dedication*

To our Parents, whose love, devotion and belief in us, their sons and daughters, have illumined the paths, made level the hills, and routed all fears of the 1939 pioneers.







*Faculty*



MR. JULES I. PHILIE, A.B.  
*Superintendent of Schools*



MR. LIONEL R. TRUDEAU, A.B.  
*Principal*

French I, II, III  
General Science

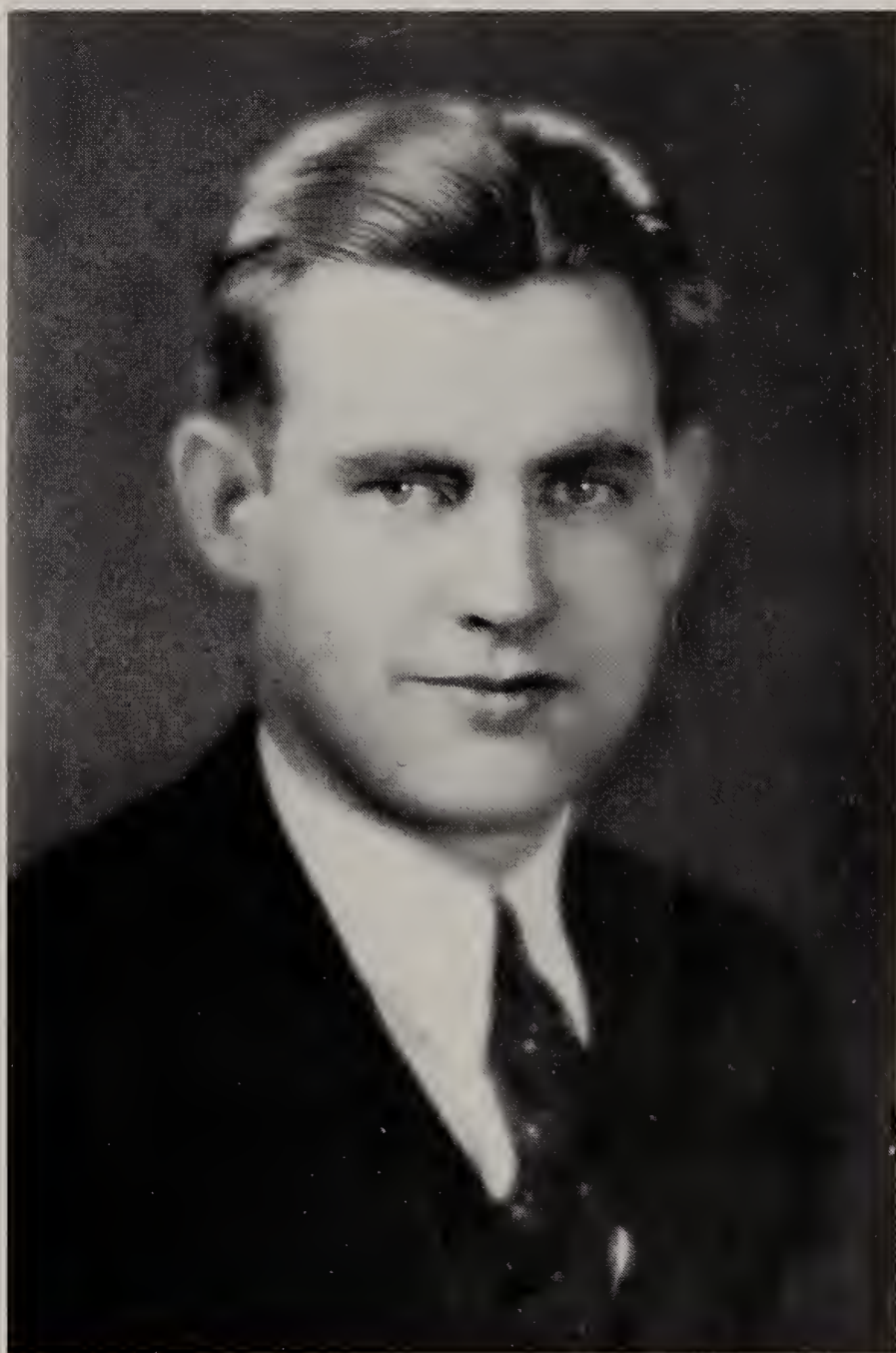


# Faculty



MISS FRANCES J. ELLIS, B.S.  
*Dean of Girls*

Home Economics  
Foods I, II  
Clothing I, II, III  
Home Management I, II



MR. GEORGE F. FITZPATRICK, B.C.S.

Bookkeeping I, II  
Economics  
Economic Geography  
Athletic Coach

# Faculty



MR. HAROLD J. GRANGER, B.S.

Algebra II  
Trigonometry  
Chemistry  
Manual Training



MR. JAMES J. KEOUGH, A.B.

Biology  
English II  
Latin III  
Plane Geometry  
Civics  
Freshman Class Adviser



# Faculty



MISS HELEN ANNE LYONS, A.B., A.M.

English I, II, III, IV

Latin II

Senior Class Adviser



MR. J. FRANCIS O'MARA, A.B.

Latin I

General Science

Algebra I

American History

Problems of Democracy

Sophomore Class Adviser

# *Faculty*



MISS EVELYN EUNICE PINARDI, B.S.

English I  
Junior Business Training  
Salesmanship  
Ancient History  
Italian I  
Junior Class Adviser



MISS ANNE CHARLOTTE WARD, B.S.E.

Shorthand I, II  
Typewriting I, II







Helen Anne Lyons

Harold J Granger

# *Faculty*



MISS WINIFRED J. DOWD, B.S.

Resigned April 8, 1939



MISS ELIZABETH MARTEL

*Secretary*

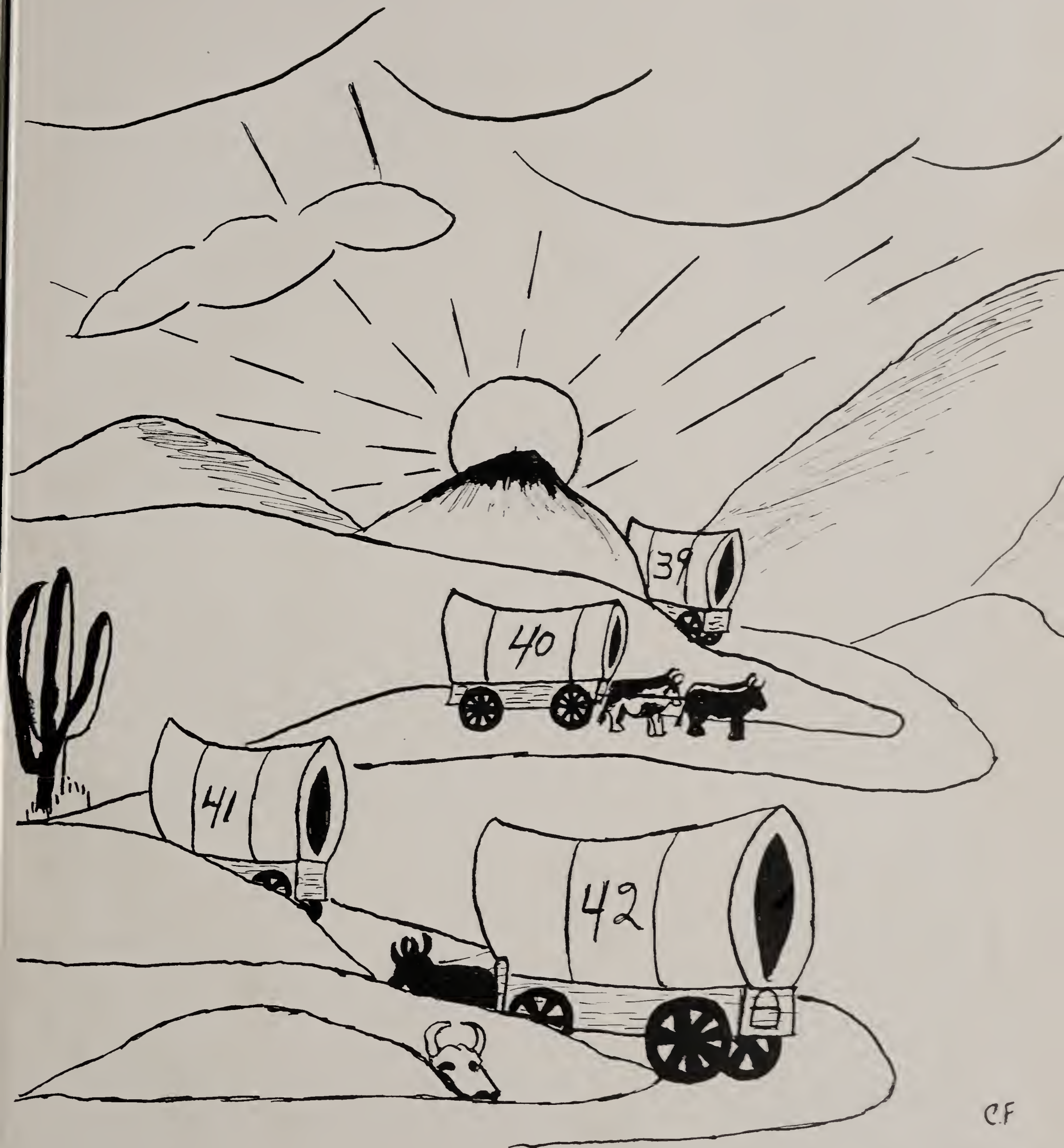
*Our  
School Committee*

MR. DANIEL J. BREEN  
Chairman

MR. ALBERT A. BOUDREAU

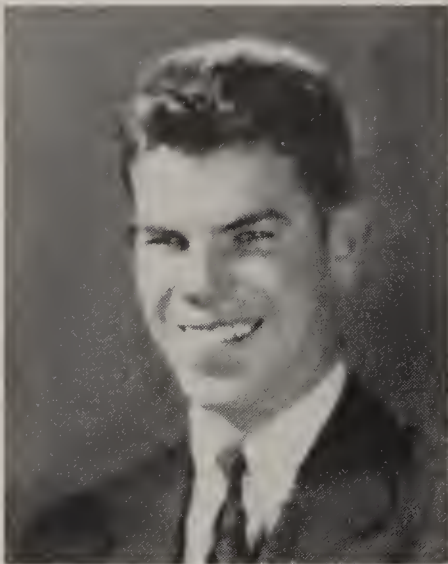
MR. LESTER L. LATAILLE  
Secretary





CF

*Classes*



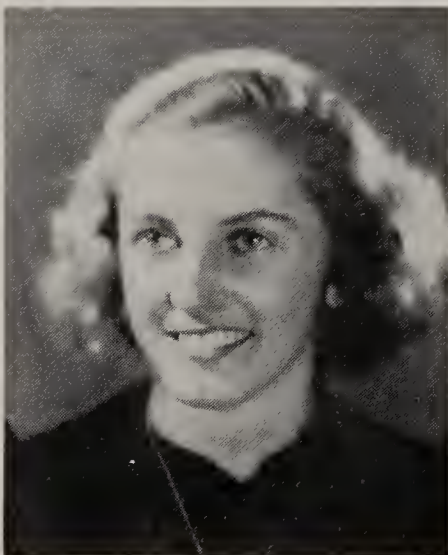
EDGAR SCOTT "Pat"

South Bellingham

*General Course*

Mountain stream—powerful—strong—"now too deep for sound, now rushing noisily,"—determined—persistent.

Activities: President of Class of 1939, President of Dramatic Club, Marshal Student Government, Public Speaking, Toastmaster, A. A.



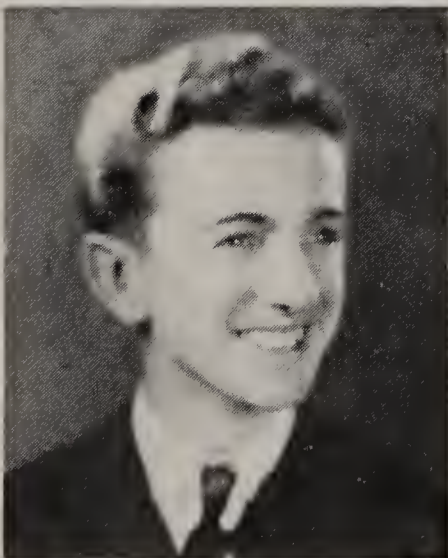
RITA STELLA GUERIN "Joyce"

South Bellingham

*Business Course*

La belle ballerina — tulle — graceful — dainty — picturesque.

Vice-president of Class of 1939, Captain of Girls' Basketball Team, Marshal Student Council, Glee Club, Dramatic Club Secretary, Bicycle Club, A. A., Cheer Leader, Home Economics Club.



LEO CARTIER "Star"

South Bellingham

*College Course*

Neon lights — top hat — white tie — tails.

Treasurer of Class of 1939, Captain of Boys' Baseball Team, Boys' Basketball Team, Glee Club, Sports Writer, Dramatic Club, Historian, Treasurer of A. A., President of Bicycle Club, Marshal Student Council.



LOLA LORETTA MEOTTI "Lo"

Centre

*Business Course*

Diamonds — sparkling — brilliant — scintillating.

Secretary of the Class of 1939, Girls' Basketball Team, Glee Club, A. A., Cheer Leader.



WINDSOR DAVIS BATES

South Bellingham

*General Course*

"Joe College" — nonchalant — carefree — irrepressible.

Business Manager of *Student Voice*, Assistant Business Manager of "Epilogue," Boys' Basketball Team, Dramatic Club, A. A.



J. ADELARD BERNIER "Del"

South Bellingham

*College Course*

The music maker of 1939 — modern syncopater — baton beater — dynamic drummer.

Editor-in-Chief of *Epilogue*, Marshal in Student Council, Glee Club, A. A., Class Essayist.



EVELYN MARY BOYLE "Evie"

South Bellingham

*College Course*

Country garden — unpretentious — dainty — lovely.

Glee Club, A. A.



CONSTANCE BLANCHE FARLEY "Connie"

South Bellingham

*College Course*

Invigorating breeze on a mid-summer day — refreshing — vitalizing.

Art Editor for *Epilogue*, Glee Club, Dramatic Club, A. A., Manager Girls' Basketball Team, Bicycle Club, Class Prophet, Art Editor for *Student Voice*, Secretary Student Council.







BLANCHE EVELYN FITZPATRICK "Fitzie"  
Caryville

*Business Course*

Cameo — refined — simple — natural  
A. A., Glee Club.



ESTHER MARGARET FOLEY  
North Bellingham

*Business Course*

Easter Lily — spiritual — calm — fragile — verdant.  
Glee Club, Assistant Literary Editor of Epilogue.



VIRGILIO PETER FORTE "Virgil"  
South Bellingham

*College Course*

"He was a gentleman from sole to crown."  
A. A., Dramatic Club, Assistant Literary Editor of Epilogue.



MARY GENEVIEVE GIGANTE "Mae"  
South Bellingham

*Business Course*

Wood violet — demure — shy — modest.  
A. A., Art Staff of Epilogue.

MARION ELIZABETH HOGARTH "Hogie"  
 South Bellingham  
*College Course*

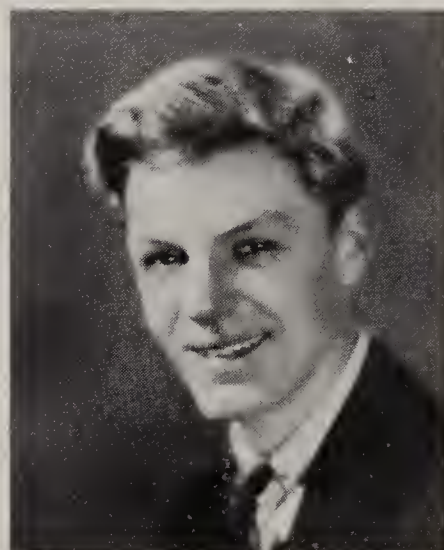
Miss 20th century of business world — well-poised — efficient — calm — cooperative.

Chairman of Class of 1939, Editor-in-Chief of *Student Voice*, Marshal Student Council, Business Manager of Epilogue, Girls' Basketball Team, Vice-President Dramatic Club, A. A., Glee Club, Bicycle Club.



DANTE INNOCENTE "Danny"  
 South Bellingham  
*College Course*

The meteor — flashing — swift — sudden.  
 A. A.



HELEN JOAN MOSTEK  
 South Bellingham  
*Business Course*

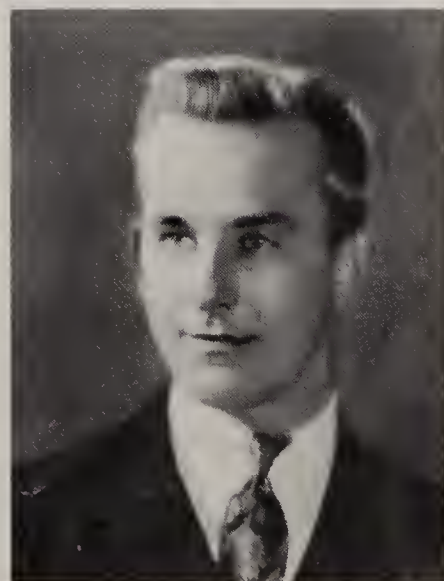
Summer twilight — tranquil — peaceful — soothing.  
 A. A., Glee Club, Home Economics Club.



STEPHEN NADOLNY "Steve" "Porky"  
 North Bellingham  
*Business Course*

"Steel and velvet grace."

Boys' Baseball Team, Boys' Basketball Team, President of A. A. Dramatic Club, Public Speaking, Class Will, Business Assistant of Epilogue.







EVERLENNA SIMS "Simsie"

South Bellingham

*Business Course*

Lights across the snow — warm — radiant — cheerful.  
A. A., Glee Club, Dramatic Club.



ALBERT JAMES SPENCER "Al"

Centre Bellingham

*Business Course*

The judge — deliberate — meditative — solemn — slow.  
President of Student Council, A. A., Dramatic Club.



GEORGE STAPLES

South Bellingham

*General Course*

Mighty mite — vigorous — daring — bold.  
Manager of Boys' Basketball Team, A. A., Dramatic Club.



JENNIE ZHAWRED

Centre Bellingham

*Business Course*

"All American girl" — up-to-date — versatile — charming.  
Class Poet, Chairman of Senior Hop, Dramatic Club, Glee Club,  
A. A., Art Assistant on Epilogue, Student Voice Staff, Cheer  
Leader, Home Economics Club.





JUNIOR CLASS



SOPHOMORE CLASS



FRESHMAN CLASS





C.F.

*Extra-Curricular Activities*

FIRST COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

of

BELLINGHAM HIGH SCHOOL

Class of 1939



HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

THURSDAY, JUNE 29, 1939

8 P. M.



## PROGRAM

|                          |                                                                     |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Processional             | School Orchestra                                                    |
| Invocation               | Reverend Charles Moisan                                             |
| Salutatory               | J. Adelard Bernier, '39                                             |
| "Forget-Me-Not"          | Giese-Fischer                                                       |
| "Volga Boatmen's Song"   | Boys' and Girls' Glee Club                                          |
| Selection                | School Orchestra                                                    |
| Awarding of Prizes       | Daniel J. Breen,<br>Chairman School Committee                       |
| Special Legion Award     | Edward M. Reid                                                      |
| "Come to the Fair"       | Martin                                                              |
| "Cradle Song"            | Brahms                                                              |
|                          | Girls' Glee Club                                                    |
| Address to Graduates     | Martin F. O'Connor, President<br>Framingham State Teachers' College |
| Presentation of Diplomas | Daniel J. Breen                                                     |
| Valedictory              | Jennie Zhawred                                                      |
| Class Song               | Class of 1939                                                       |
| Benediction              | Reverend C. E. Chamberlain                                          |
| National Anthem          | Assembly                                                            |
| Recessional              | Class of 1939                                                       |

## GRADUATES



### GIRLS

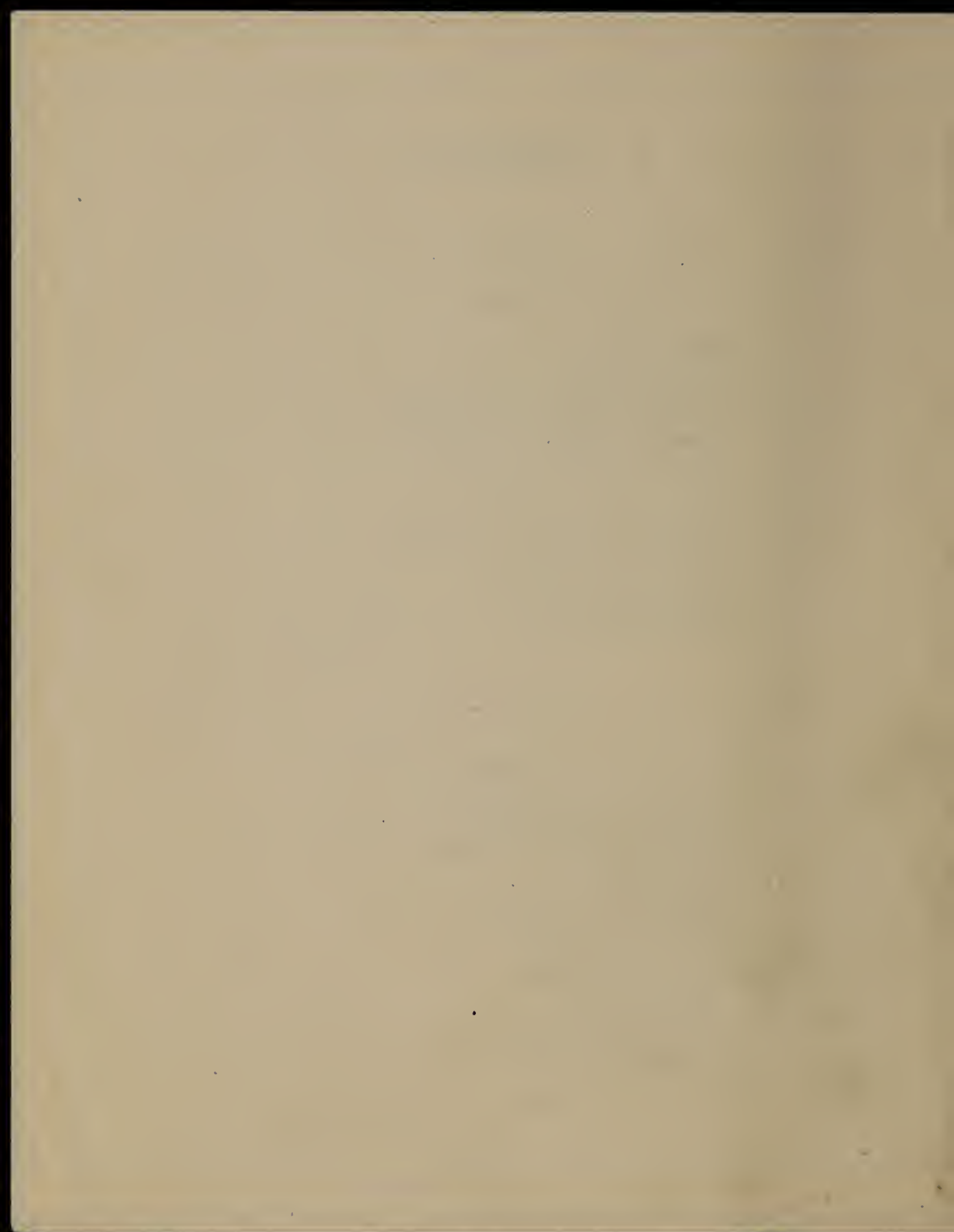
Evelyn Boyle  
Constance Blanche Farley  
Blanche Evelyn Fitzpatrick  
Esther Margaret Foley  
Mary Genevieve Gigante  
Rita Stella Guerin  
Marion Elizabeth Hogarth  
Lola Loretta Meotti  
Helen Joan Mostek  
Jennie Zhawred



### BOYS

Windsor Davis Bates  
Joseph Adelard Bernier  
Leo Cartier  
Virgilio Peter Forte  
Dante Innocente  
Stephen Nadolny  
Edgar Scott  
Albert James Spencer  
George Staples









STUDENT VOICE



STUDENT COUNCIL





DRAMATIC CLUB



GLEE CLUB





ITALIAN CLUB



HOME ECONOMICS CLUB

Bellingham High School, Bellingham, Washington

Bellingham, Washington





BOYS' BASKETBALL TEAM



BOYS' BASEBALL TEAM





GIRLS' BASKETBALL TEAM



CHEER LEADERS





BICYCLE CLUB

# *Commencement Program*

Saturday, June 24

*Senior Class Outing*

Sunday, June 25

*Baccalaureate*

Monday, June 26

*Book Pageant*

Tuesday, June 27

*Senior Banquet*

Wednesday, June 28

*Class Day*

Thursday, June 29

*Commencement*

Friday, June 30

*Senior Hop*

*Senior Colors:* Gold and Maroon.

*Senior Motto:* "Over all obstacles!"



# Senior Statistics

For four years we '39ers had been associating with our classmates without taking real cognizance of them as far as individual and original characteristics were concerned. Then, finally, and quite suddenly, the situation changed; the world was waiting for our unique and distinctive title-holders and we had been negligent. Did we shirk our duty? Did we overlook our responsibility which, as the guardians and trustees of Bellingham High School, was ours? No! Out came the ballots; seized were our pencils; Seniors were scrutinized and analyzed; our brains were strenuously exercised — And the results? Here they are!

| <i>Title</i>                            | <i>Girl</i>         | <i>Boy</i>      |
|-----------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| <i>Most Versatile</i> . . . . .         | Lola Meotti         | Leo Cartier     |
| <i>Most Sincere</i> . . . . .           | Esther Foley        | Albert Spencer  |
| <i>Most Popular</i> . . . . .           | Lola Meotti         | Edgar Scott     |
| <i>Best Student</i> . . . . .           | Evelyn Boyle        | Adelard Bernier |
| <i>Best Athlete</i> . . . . .           | Lola Meotti         | Leo Cartier     |
| <i>Best Dancer</i> . . . . .            | Lola Meotti         | Leo Cartier     |
| <i>Wittiest</i> . . . . .               | Constance Farley    | Windsor Bates   |
| <i>Neatest</i> . . . . .                | Mary Gigante        | Windsor Bates   |
| <i>Most Likely to Succeed</i> . . . . . | Marion Hogarth      | Virgilio Forte  |
| <i>Most Scientific</i> . . . . .        | Marion Hogarth      | Albert Spencer  |
| <i>Most Literary</i> . . . . .          | Marion Hogarth      | Adelard Bernier |
| <i>Best Natured</i> . . . . .           | Lola Meotti         | Edgar Scott     |
| <i>Noisiest</i> . . . . .               | Lola Meotti         | Windsor Bates   |
| <i>Class Baby</i> . . . . .             | Rita Guerin         | Windsor Bates   |
| <i>Most Cooperative</i> . . . . .       | Marion Hogarth      | Adelard Bernier |
| <i>Best Looking</i> . . . . .           | Jennie Zhawred      | Stephen Nadolny |
| <i>Most Typical</i> . . . . .           | Lola Meotti         | Adelard Bernier |
| <i>Most Loquacious</i> . . . . .        | Lola Meotti         | Windsor Bates   |
| <i>Most Reticent</i> . . . . .          | Mary Gigante        | Albert Spencer  |
| <i>Most Punctual</i> . . . . .          | Mary Gigante        | Adelard Bernier |
| <i>Most Musical</i> . . . . .           | Helen Mostek        | Adelard Bernier |
| <i>Most Artistic</i> . . . . .          | Constance Farley    | Leo Cartier     |
| <i>Most Shy</i> . . . . .               | Mary Gigante        | Albert Spencer  |
| <i>Most Ambitious</i> . . . . .         | Marion Hogarth      | Adelard Bernier |
| <i>Most Generous</i> . . . . .          | Rita Guerin         | George Staples  |
| <i>Smallest</i> . . . . .               | Constance Farley    | George Staples  |
| <i>Best Sport</i> . . . . .             | Blanche Fitzpatrick | Dante Innocente |
| <i>Most Popular Junior</i> . . . . .    | Gaby Martel         | Arthur Bokowski |
| <i>Most Popular Sophomore</i> . . . . . | Gloria Meotti       | Edgar Garneau   |
| <i>Most Popular Freshman</i> . . . . .  | Mary Foley          | Romeo Sweck     |

# Class History

The History of the Graduating Class of 1939 is a rare chronicle having two Alma Maters instead of the customary one. When the Junior year at Franklin and Milford ended, most of the students never thought they would be the first graduates of the new Bellingham High School. The majority wanted to receive their diplomas from the school which they had previously attended for three years but the expenses were too great.

The Bellingham High School building was started in March and was to be completed by the end of August but the snowstorms and the hurricane greatly detained the workers. The new equipment for the school could not be transported for all the roads were blocked and this further retarded the work.

Rumors were going around that the pupils would be required to attend classes on Saturdays and have longer hours each day. September went by without any signs of its opening, but finally, about the third week of October the news spread all over town that the high school year would begin on the twenty-fourth of that month.

The first day was spent looking the new school over with each individual giving his own opinion on the new situation. The Seniors were as much puzzled over the new faculty, schoolrooms, and classes as the Freshmen. Many new acquaintances were made before the first week rolled by.

Mr. Jules I. Philie had been appointed the first Superintendent of the new High School with Mr. Lionel Trudeau as the Principal. Mr. Trudeau, a resident of this town and well-known by the students, taught French I, II, and III, and also Science. Miss Winifred Dowd took care of the Commercial Department and was also Coach of the Girls' Basketball Team. Miss Frances Ellis had the Home Economics Department and later became Coach of the Girls' Athletics. Mr. George Fitzpatrick, another local instructor, was the business teacher and was also Coach of the Boys' Basketball and Baseball Teams. Mr. Harold Granger taught Mathematics and Manual Training. Mr. James Keough took care of the Freshmen and gave College training in various subjects. Miss Helen Lyons was Faculty Adviser for the Seniors and was the English Teacher of the four classes. Mr. J. Francis O'Mara, with the Sophomores, taught History and Latin and Miss Evelyn Pinardi, Faculty Adviser of the Juniors, took care of the Business Training, Italian, and Ancient History.

There were nineteen Seniors in the class of 1939. It didn't take very long before their loyalty and

affections were directed entirely to their own new Alma Mater. The first senior class meeting was held and officers were elected. Edgar Scott was chosen President; Rita Guerin, Vice-President; Lola Meotti, the Secretary, and "Star" Cartier, Treasurer. The Seniors selected maroon and gold as the class colors. Black and white were suitably named for the school colors.

Commencement soon made its preview in such matters as class rings, pictures, and yearbooks. A gold ring with a ruby stone was selected. In the center of the ruby in raised gold is a facsimile of the main entrance to the high school. The year of the class is set in on each side of the ruby and the initials of each individual are on the inside of his ring. Pictures of the faculty, various clubs, and teams were taken by the Warren Kay Vantine Picture Studio. Each senior had his picture taken to be placed in the Yearbook. Plans for the Yearbook were started and were developed along literary, artistic, and business lines.

Our activities were soon directed according to academic, social, and athletic principles. Under the Student Council the members made laws for the betterment of school discipline. Penalties were given to those who disobeyed these laws. The *Student Voice*, the school paper, brought out talent in the students that had remained hidden up to this time. The Dramatic, Public Speaking, and Glee Clubs focused all attention on our actors, speakers, and singers. The Home Economics and the Italian Clubs enjoyed and profited by their work.

Under the Social heading dances, parties, and clubs were included. The first public affair to be conducted in the new auditorium was a dance under the auspices of the Senior class. It proved to be a financial success. Townspeople and friends from nearby districts came to listen and dance to "Gene" King and his orchestra. Afternoon socials were introduced for the benefit of the inexperienced dancers. The Senior Class and a number of Teachers traveled to Boston to see a performance of "Macbeth." After the performance, the group went to Child's "Old France" where they enjoyed a late repast before returning home. The Bicycle Club peddled many miles for enjoyment. Picnicking was what they mostly desired.

Under the Athletic lines Basketball, Baseball, Volleyball, and Bowling were included. The Girls' Basketball Team, under direction of Coach Dowd, and the Boys' Team under Coach Fitzpatrick proved to be of great interest to the students, townspeople, and



# Class History

(Continued)

outsiders. Throughout the season the people encouraged the teams by crowding the new auditorium whenever they played on the local floor. The baseball team proved to be more successful and larger crowds came to see the games. Teachers and students played volleyball for afternoon amusement. Bowling parties, under the direction of Mr. Trudeau, tried their skill at the Palace Alleys.

The first great disappointment to mar the happiness of the Seniors was the news that Miss Dowd was resigning to accept a teaching position in her local town. A farewell party was given to her by the faculty and she was presented a birthstone ring. On April 6, she received a pendant from the Girls' Basketball Team and also a beautiful corsage from her senior shorthand class. As a final offering, the students put on a surprise farewell assembly and wished Miss Dowd the best of luck.

On April 10, Miss Anne Ward, the new teacher, entered our midst. She met with the approval of the students and she soon became one of us.

The Senior Class, as a whole, are sorry to leave the New High School. They have attended classes for only one year in this town, but the friendship of the Superintendent, Principal, and Teachers will not be easily forgotten. They also thank the faculties in Milford and Franklin for having given them such a fine start in life.

The Class of 1939 will be the first to graduate in the new Bellingham High School. This will go down in the history of the town. May the future annals of the Class of 1939 continue to be profitable and pleasant! May our Alma Mater find strength and joy in us, her "pioneers."

LEO CARTIER, '39.

Our history would be incomplete if we neglected to give our sincere appreciation to our faithful custodian, Henry Vezina. At all times Henry's loyal and enthusiastic support was always given. Never has he been known to refuse our requests, numerous and often extravagant though they were. We of '39 extend a sincere thank you to Henry!

## *Nineteen Pioneers*

Nineteen Pioneers trudgingly plod  
    'Neath skies of overcast hue,  
Nineteen Pioneers onward trod  
    To field so wondrously new.  
Nineteen faces greeting the dawn  
    Saw visions of their destination,  
Nineteen faces meeting the morn  
    Of a new day in education.

Knowledge was the goal they sought  
    To lead them onwardly,  
A battle long had to be fought  
    Before gaining victory.  
They found their battle for knowledge exciting,  
    Each day revealing more interesting news,  
Soon they would win after days of fighting  
    Against obstacles which had once seemed so huge.

Success now crowns their achievement  
    As gallantly they stand,  
With diplomas held tightly  
    In the palm of every hand.  
Today they have reached the goal long sought  
    '39 has won its fame,  
For ahead lie battles differently wrought  
    We face them unafraid —  
For, Bellingham, your strength is found in just  
    Recalling your name.

JENNIE ZHAWRED, '39.



# Class Prophecy

How peaceful it was on that beautiful spring day! The grass and trees were getting green, and flowers had started to bud. Well, I was going along about thirty miles an hour (or so it seemed) when my thoughts were suddenly interrupted by the shrill blast of a police whistle. "Oh, oh," I thought, "must be some old grouch." I stopped the car and to my surprise who should appear but the President of my graduating class, Pat Scott. Pat is now gracing the uniform of our law protectors, a State Trooper. The only trouble with the position, Pat remarked, was that they were provided with only bicycles, making the peddling after speeders a very hard job.

Being friends of by-gone days, Pat forgot the incident, and just for curiosity's sake, he took me to the courthouse to see another classmate. Off to court we went and behold, making his majestic entrance, none other than Judge Albert Spencer. He is now working hard to reach the goal of Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

Sitting in the jury box I received greater surprises, for sitting very regally there was Lola Meotti, who is now an aviatrix. She has her own transport plane and to keep the passengers from being bored, she has tight-rope walkers perform from one wing to the other. Boredom never lurks.

Leo Cartier came next. Leo, our Beau Brummel of our graduating class is proud owner of an Escort Bureau. His "Tall and Handsome Escort Service" is the talk of the country.

Rita Guerin, our graceful tap cutie, has a ballet review of her own. For something unusual, Rita has her dancers perform with skis to prove that gracefulness is born in a person, not made.

George Staples, our one-time newspaper boy, is now owner of the "Bellingham Gazette." His suave column on "Daintiness" is the rage of the town.

Marion Hogarth, who had ambitions of being a nurse, has reached her goal. She is now Superintendent in the "Who's Who Asylum" and often wonders "who's who."

Windsor Bates is now a soda jerker at the Bellingham Campus Drugstore. His "Gaby Special" is hailed as something "spicy" by the students.

Blanche Fitzpatrick has been widely hailed as a new Emily Post since the recent publication of *Etiquette for the High School Student*.

Dante Innocente is a speed demon. His flirtations with death are colossal, packed with thrills. His performance on his roller skates is unbeatable.

Jennie Zhawred now operates her own dress salon. Her flair for designing clothes cannot be surpassed. Her shop, known as "Madame Fifi's Dress Salon," is the last word in elegance and chic.

Virgilio Forte is known as a man about town — must be, because he's a taxi driver.

Esther Foley is a beauty shop owner. Her newest coiffure is an upswing hair-do on the right side and a Garbo Bob on the left. Originality in coiffure is her special achievement.

Steve Nadolny, our best looking Senior, is a mill owner. He manufactures toupees for people with too high a forehead. With every toupee he gives a handle, turning the toupee in a dust cloth at a moment's notice.

Evelyn Boyle has a school of Beauty Culture. She can make you look like 60 at 16, but more often 16 at 60.

Mary Gigante is a hat designer. The hats she makes from tin cans and cups are scrumptuous. They give a sophisticated appearance to the weaker sex, but a puzzling look to the stronger sex.

Helen Mostek, our Senior songbird, is now a well-known Prima Donna in Bellingham. She sings in the local opera houses and her rendition of "Turkey in the Straw" is beyond comparison.

Evelenna Sims, our P. G. student, is a fire newspaper reporter and to make sure she will be able to reach the fires on time, she operates her own motorcycle.

# *Class Prophecy*

(Continued)

Well, after getting over my surprise, I went to the nearest hotel for dinner and who should be playing there,—no other than our own Senior Class maestro, Adelard Bernier. He now has his own orchestra known as "Zeke and His Question Marks." His reputation has spread from coast to coast.

After all these surprises I kept on going in order to arrive home on time for my next appointment at my "Ye Pioneer Art Shoppe."

CONSTANCE BLANCHE FARLEY, '39.



## *Class Song*

Bellingham, our Alma Mater,  
We're the class of '39  
Gathered here in final tribute  
To a school that is so fine.  
We pledge our hearts' devotion  
To you, our friend so true,  
'39, your "pioneers" will have fondest thoughts of you.

Gold, maroon, — these are our emblems  
Which we twine with black and white,  
These together colored gaily  
Our school days that were so bright  
Now in song we all salute you with acclaim and loyalty  
Bellingham, your Seniors leave you their staunch fidelity.

# Class Essay

## HARDSHIPS AND HEROISM OF PIONEER LIFE

Today, the United States alone supports about 130 million people with a rich civilization. What produced this amazing change? Three centuries ago, the American continent was a wilderness of forests, prairies, and mountains. Indians roamed everywhere. Inventors, builders, and businessmen helped with many improvements, but their work rested on the foundations laid by the land-settling pioneers who kept pushing westward until they had turned the entire wilderness into a civilized land. Therefore, to understand the United States of today, we should understand these pioneers, their lives, their struggles, and how they finally succeeded with their tremendous task.

### PIONEER LIFE

When the American people started pushing west from the Atlantic coast into new lands, among the first to go were backwoodsmen from western Virginia and North Carolina. Daniel Boone had told them about the fine land in Kentucky, and even before the American Revolution ended, some had started for this land.

Let us imagine we are traveling with a group of them. In addition to women and children, our party includes about forty men and older boys, carrying rifles. We need so many fighters because the Indians are not friendly, as they had been at first to hunters and trappers. They know that we intend to make farms, and farms will ruin the country for hunting. Over rugged mountains and through thick forests the hardest kind of traveling lies ahead of us. How can we get through without chopping out a path? We can follow the Indian trails. These trails began as animal trails. Deer and bison roamed over the land, seeking fresh pasture and avoiding winter cold. Their hoofs beat down all growth along their lines of march, and so trails were kept open as the forest grew. We may march ten miles in a day, or even less if we have to chop away fallen timber from the path. Late in the afternoon, the advance guard selects a good spot and makes camp for the night. Some men keep watch, while others cut branches and build a windbreak. The women cook supper. They make Johnny-cake by baking a batter of corn meal on a stone in front of the fire; they cook venison or other game by broiling chunks held on sharpened sticks over the fire. After supper, the men post sentries to watch the live stock

and give warning of Indians. How did these people learn to get along so well in the wildernesses of Kentucky and Tennessee? They learned from their parents and grandparents, who had been pioneers in western Virginia and North Carolina. Once a year or so they might trade furs and perhaps some farm produce for powder, lead, iron, and salt. Their own gunsmiths and blacksmiths made their rifles and tools. Until the family got vegetables from the garden and corn from the clearing, they lived on cow's milk, game, and berries.

Pioneers did not settle north of the Ohio River as soon as they did in Kentucky and Tennessee for several reasons. Many of the early pioneers went no farther than the fertile valleys of the mountains in the East, and New England's new shipping trade gave work to many men who might otherwise have moved to the West. Besides, several states claimed the northwest region, and so settlers hesitated to take up land until they knew what authority would give them titles. In 1787, however, the Continental Congress created the Northwest Territory, to include all land north of the Ohio and west of Pennsylvania, and encouraged settlers to move in. Immediately a flood of settlers began pouring in from the northern states and from Maryland and Virginia.

After these settlers arrived on their land, their life for the first few years was much the same as early life in Kentucky. They had to build cabins, clear land, and hunt or fish to add to their scanty food supplies. To get money, they floated grain, salt pork, and other products downstream to markets along the lower Mississippi. They either walked back or poled a boat. By 1840 most of the good land north of the Ohio and east of the Mississippi had been settled. The regions beyond these rivers called for a different type of pioneering. The prairies of the West seemed utterly unfit for farming to the men of that day.

This indifference to the West changed in the winter of 1842-43, when Congress discussed a bill to provide land for settlers in Oregon. In the spring of 1843, a great rush to Oregon set in. This rush was different from any earlier pioneer movement. The earlier migration had been overcramped forest trails with pack animals or along rivers, such as the Ohio. But here no river between the Missouri and the Columbia would take a boat larger than a light canoe. Instead of forest trails, the pioneers had a broad, flat prairie for much of the way, and they could use



# Class Essay

(Continued)

Conestoga wagons, also called covered wagons or prairie schooners.

This conquest of the prairie was the last large-scale pioneering effort made within the United States. It filled the last gap in the settlement of the country, and spread civilization in an unbroken chain from the Atlantic to the Pacific. But long before this was accomplished, two developments had brought the story of pioneer life farther east to a close. One of them was good transportation. The other was the growth of towns, where the settlers could trade and enjoy the benefits of community life.

## PIONEERS IN MODERN TIMES

We, the class of 1939, are the Pioneering Class of the Bellingham High School. When we were graduated from grammar school, we left to acquire more in education, as did the Pioneers, when they left from western Virginia and North Carolina to acquire more land and establish farms in Kentucky. They entered into new territories as we did when we entered a new field in education, the high school.

Many hardships confronted us, but we overcame them by using both the knowledge we earlier acquired, as the Pioneers overcame theirs by what they learned from their parents. By learning more in the line of education was our second help, as their second help was learning how to build furniture, cultivate new crops, and develop new tools. We continued our course and made considerable progress which now enables us to receive a diploma for the completion of our course, thus becoming a high school graduate. For their courage and work the Pioneers succeeded in having well-established farms and title to the land they settled. Towns were formed and better methods of transportation were introduced, enabling the Pioneers to procure many necessities which they formerly had to do without.

Those of us who are fortunate enough to further our education will do so, and enter the age of professionals.

The settlement of the Pioneers, the freedom won by our forefathers, and the numerous inventions make all this possible for us.

J. ADELARD BERNIER, '39.

# *The Class Will of 1939*

Be it remembered that we, the Members of the Class of 1939 of Bellingham High School, in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and the first class ever to be graduated thereof, being of sound mind and memory, but knowing the uncertainty of this life do make this, our last will and testament, hereby revoking all former wills by us at any time heretofore made.

After the payment of our first debts and funeral charges, we bequeath and devise the following:

To the Faculty — We leave the absence of very good scholars.

To Mr. Philie and Mr. Trudeau — We leave our sincere thanks for making our last year successful.

To Mr. Granger — A larger number of classes to conduct.

To Mr. O'Mara — We leave the expression of "All good things come in small packages."

For Mr. Keough's benefit we requested the Town of Millville to construct a better road to Bellingham High School.

To Miss Pinardi — We leave a larger Italian Club.

To Miss Ellis — A class of boys in Domestic Science who, we hope, will live up to her expectation of being better than the girls.

To Mr. Fitzpatrick and his Athletes — We wish success.

To Miss Ward — We leave our bright memories.

To Miss Lyons — We leave a debt of gratitude which we can never repay.

To the Glee Club — Swing music.

To the Public Speaking Club — We leave space for more talent.

To Student Council — We leave less laborious courts.

To the Bicycle Club — We leave an imaginary tricycle.

Scott, Nadolny, Bates and Staples do herewith leave all their worldly possessions to the future Tooti-Fruti Club restricted to four members. Staples leaves Albert Marchand a new sponge to keep his profession in existence.

Bernier leaves his drumming for roll call.

Nadolny submits his front seat in study hall to Pete Garneau.

Forte sets aside his game of "Morlar."

Spencer — "The Honorable Judge," leaves a vacancy in the Students' Council.

Bates leaves his wittiness to be taken up by Joe Spas.

Innocente leaves melodiously.

Cartier leaves his ability as sports-writer to Paul Sahagian.

Lola Meotti leaves her athletic ability to her sister.

Constance Farley leaves evidences of her artistic ability in our *Epilogue*.

Marion Hogarth leaves to Gaby Martel her versatile ability which helped the Senior Class so much.

R. Guerin leaves us convinced that ballet and basketball do mix.

M. Gigante leaves her quietness as an example for others.

H. Mostek leaves her vocal ability to Audrey Brown.



# *The Class Will of 1939*

(Continued)

B. Fitzpatrick leaves her ever-ready assistance to aid the school.

E. Foley leaves her sincerity.

E. Boyle leaves her example as a well-modelled student to be followed by lower class students.

J. Zhawred leaves her dramatic skill to future Bellingham "stars."

And now not having given Caesar the things which are his, but to the Juniors the dignity we shall always own; to the Sophomores our valuable advice, and to the Freshmen our helpful hints, we hereunto set our hands and seal this twenty-seventh day of June, one thousand nine hundred and thirty-nine, in the presence of witnesses, and do hereby declare this to be our last will and testament.

STEPHEN NADOLNY, '39.



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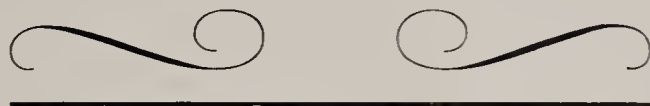
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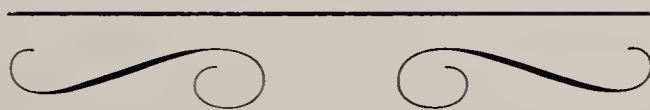
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